

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 118–10
OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of title XVIII, add the following:

1 **Subtitle D—Peace Corps**
2 **Reauthorization Act of 2023**

3 **SEC. 1861. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Peace Corps Reauthor-
5 ization Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 1862. FUNDING FOR THE PEACE CORPS; INTEGRATION**
7 **OF INFORMATION AGE VOLUNTEER OPPOR-**
8 **TUNITIES.**

9 Section 3 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2502)
10 is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “that fiscal
12 year and the subsequent fiscal year” and inserting
13 “obligation until the last day of the subsequent fis-
14 cal year”; and

15 (2) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
16 section (e).

17 **SEC. 1863. READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES FOR VOLUN-**
18 **TEERS AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS.**

19 Section 5 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504)
20 is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “insure their
2 health” and inserting “ensure their safety, their
3 health, and”;

4 (2) in subsection (c)—

5 (A) by striking “\$125” and inserting
6 “\$375”;

7 (B) by striking “his” each place such term
8 appears and inserting “the volunteer’s”; and

9 (C) by striking “he” and inserting “the
10 volunteer”;

11 (3) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
12 section (d);

13 (4) by inserting after subsection (d), as redesign-
14 ated, the following:

15 “(e) The Director shall consult with health experts
16 outside of the Peace Corps, including experts licensed in
17 the field of mental health, and follow guidance by the Cen-
18 ters for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the pre-
19 scription of medications to volunteers.”;

20 (5) in subsection (h), by striking “he” and in-
21 serting “the President”;

22 (6) in subsection (n)(2)—

23 (A) by striking “subsection (e)” each place
24 such term appears and inserting “subsection
25 (d)”;

1 (B) by striking “he” and inserting “the
2 President”; and

3 (7) in subsection (o), by striking “his” each
4 place such term appears and inserting “the volun-
5 teer’s”.

6 **SEC. 1864. RESTORATION OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**
7 **FOR MAJOR DISRUPTIONS TO VOLUNTEER**
8 **SERVICE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the Peace Corps Act
10 (22 U.S.C. 2504), as amended by section 1863, is further
11 amended by adding at the end the following:

12 “(q) DISRUPTION OF SERVICE PROTOCOLS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish
14 processes for the safe return to service of returning
15 Peace Corps volunteers whose service is interrupted
16 due to mandatory evacuations of volunteers due to
17 catastrophic events or global emergencies of unknow-
18 able duration, which processes shall include—

19 “(A) the establishment of monitoring and
20 communications systems, protocols, safety
21 measures, policies, and metrics for determining
22 the appropriate approaches for restoring volun-
23 teer opportunities for evacuated returned volun-
24 teers whose service is interrupted by a cata-
25 strophic event or global emergency; and

1 “(B) streamlining, to the fullest extent
2 practicable, application requirements for the re-
3 turn to service of such volunteers.

4 “(2) RETURN TO SERVICE.—Beginning on the
5 date on which any volunteer described in paragraph
6 (1) returns to service, the Director shall strive to af-
7 ford evacuated volunteers, to the fullest extent prac-
8 ticable, the opportunity—

9 “(A) to return to their previous country of
10 service, except for Peace Corps missions in
11 China; and

12 “(B) to continue their service in the most
13 needed sectors within the country in which they
14 had been serving immediately before their evac-
15 uation due to a catastrophic event or global
16 emergency, except for Peace Corps missions in
17 China.”.

18 (b) MEDICAL PERSONNEL.—Section 5A(b) of the
19 Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504a(b)) is amended, in the
20 matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “, mental
21 health professionals” after “medical officers”.

22 (c) VOLUNTEER LEADERS.—Section 6 of the Peace
23 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2505) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$125” and
25 inserting “\$375”; and

1 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “he” and in-
2 serting “the President”.

3 **SEC. 1865. HEALTH CARE CONTINUATION FOR PEACE**
4 **CORPS VOLUNTEERS.**

5 Section 5(d) of the Peace Corps Act, as redesignated
6 by section 1863(3), is amended to read as follows:

7 “(d)(1) Volunteers shall receive such health care dur-
8 ing their service as the Director considers necessary or ap-
9 propriate, including, if necessary, services under section
10 8B.

11 “(2) Applicants for enrollment shall receive such
12 health examinations preparatory to their service, and ap-
13 plicants for enrollment who have accepted an invitation
14 to begin a period of training under section 8(a) shall re-
15 ceive, preparatory to their service, such immunization,
16 dental care, and information regarding prescription op-
17 tions and potential interactions, as may be necessary and
18 appropriate and in accordance with subsection (F).

19 “(3) Subject to such conditions as the Director may
20 prescribe, the health care described in paragraphs (1) and
21 (2) for serving volunteers, applicants for enrollment, or
22 returned volunteers may be provided in any facility of any
23 agency of the United States Government, and in such
24 cases the amount expended for maintaining and operating
25 such facility shall be reimbursed from appropriations

1 available under this Act. Health care may not be provided
2 under this subsection in a manner that is inconsistent with
3 the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997
4 (Public Law 105–12).

5 “(4) Not later than 30 days before the date on which
6 the period of service of a volunteer terminates, or 30 days
7 after such termination date if such termination is the re-
8 sult of an emergency, the Director, in consultation with
9 the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall pro-
10 vide detailed information to such volunteer regarding op-
11 tions for health care after termination other than health
12 care provided by the Peace Corps, including information
13 regarding—

14 “(A) how to find additional, detailed informa-
15 tion, including information regarding—

16 “(i) the application process and eligibility
17 requirements for medical assistance through a
18 State Medicaid plan under title XIX of the So-
19 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), or
20 under a waiver of such plan; and

21 “(ii) health care option identification serv-
22 ices available through the public and private
23 sectors;

24 “(B) where detailed information on health plans
25 may be obtained; and

1 “(C) if such volunteer is 25 years of age or
2 younger, the eligibility of such volunteer to enroll as
3 a dependent child in a group health plan or health
4 insurance coverage in which the parent of such vol-
5 unteer is enrolled in such plan or coverage offers
6 such dependent coverage.

7 “(5) Paragraph (4) shall apply to volunteers whose
8 periods of service are subject to early termination.”.

9 **SEC. 1866. ACCESS TO ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS AND HY-**
10 **GIENE PRODUCTS FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUN-**
11 **TEERS.**

12 Section 5A of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504a)
13 is amended—

14 (1) by striking subsections (c) and (e);

15 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
16 section (e);

17 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(c) ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall consult
21 with experts at the Centers for Disease Control and
22 Prevention regarding recommendations for pre-
23 scribing malaria prophylaxis, in order to provide the
24 best standard of care within the context of the Peace
25 Corps environment.

1 **“SEC. 5B. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS RELAT-**
2 **ING TO NONCOMPETITIVE ELIGIBILITY FED-**
3 **ERAL HIRING STATUS FOR RETURNING VOL-**
4 **UNTEERS.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), Execu-
6 tive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note; relating to Pro-
7 viding for the Appointment of Former Peace Corps Volun-
8 teers to the Civilian Career Services), as amended by Ex-
9 ecutive Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the
10 Civil Service Commission and Labor-Management in the
11 Federal Service), as in effect on the day before the date
12 of the enactment of the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act
13 of 2023, shall remain in effect and have the full force and
14 effect of law.

15 “(b) PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY.—

16 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

17 “(A) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—the term ‘Ex-
18 ecutive agency’—

19 “(i) has the meaning given such term
20 in section 105 of title 5, United States
21 Code;

22 “(ii) includes the United States Postal
23 Service and the Postal Regulatory Com-
24 mission; and

25 “(iii) does not include the Government
26 Accountability Office.

1 “(B) **HIRING FREEZE.**—The term ‘hiring
2 freeze’ means any memorandum, Executive
3 order, or other action by the President that
4 prohibits an Executive agency from filling va-
5 cant Federal civilian employee positions or cre-
6 ating new such positions.

7 “(2) **IN GENERAL.**—The period of eligibility for
8 noncompetitive appointment to the civil service pro-
9 vided to an individual under subsection (a), includ-
10 ing any individual who is so eligible on the date of
11 the enactment of the Peace Corps Reauthorization
12 Act of 2023, shall be extended by the total number
13 of days, during such period, that—

14 “(A) a hiring freeze for civilian employees
15 of the executive branch is in effect by order of
16 the President with respect to any Executive
17 agency at which the individual has applied for
18 employment;

19 “(B) there is a lapse in appropriations
20 with respect to any Executive agency at which
21 the individual has applied for employment; or

22 “(C) the individual is receiving disability
23 compensation under section 8142 of title 5,
24 United States Code, based on the individual’s
25 service as a Peace Corps volunteer, retroactive

1 to the date the individual applied for such com-
2 pensation.

3 “(3) APPLICABILITY.—The period of eligibility
4 for noncompetitive appointment status to the civil
5 service under subsection (a) shall apply to a Peace
6 Corps volunteer—

7 “(A) whose service ended involuntarily as a
8 result of a suspension of volunteer operations
9 by the Director, but may not last longer than
10 1 year after the date on which such service
11 ended involuntarily; or

12 “(B) who re-enrolls as a volunteer in the
13 Peace Corps after completion of a term of serv-
14 ice.”.

15 **SEC. 1868. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF EXISTING NON-**
16 **COMPETITIVE ELIGIBILITY FEDERAL HIRING**
17 **STATUS FOR RETURNING VOLUNTEERS.**

18 The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is
19 amended by inserting after section 5B, as added by section
20 1867, the following:

21 **“SEC. 5C. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF EXISTING NON-**
22 **COMPETITIVE ELIGIBILITY FEDERAL HIRING**
23 **STATUS FOR RETURNING VOLUNTEERS.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5B, Executive
25 Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note; relating to Providing

1 for the Appointment of Former Peace Corps Volunteers
2 to the Civilian Career Services), as amended by Executive
3 Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the Civil
4 Service Commission and Labor-Management in the Fed-
5 eral Service), as in effect on the day before the date of
6 the enactment of the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of
7 2023, shall remain in effect and have the full force and
8 effect of law.

9 “(b) NONCOMPETITIVE ELIGIBILITY FEDERAL HIR-
10 ING STATUS.—Subject to subsection (d), any volunteer
11 whose Peace Corps service was terminated after April 1,
12 2020, and who has been certified by the Director as hav-
13 ing satisfactorily completed a full term of service, may be
14 appointed within two years of completion of qualifying
15 service to a position in any United States department,
16 agency, or establishment in the competitive service under
17 title 5, United States Code, without competitive examina-
18 tion, in accordance with such regulations and conditions
19 as may be prescribed by the Director of the Office of Per-
20 sonnel Management.

21 “(c) EXTENSION.—The appointing authority may ex-
22 tend the noncompetitive appointment eligibility under sub-
23 section (b) to not more than 3 years after a volunteer’s
24 separation from the Peace Corps if the volunteer, following
25 such service, was engaged in—

1 “(1) military service;

2 “(2) the pursuit of studies at a recognized insti-
3 tution of higher learning; or

4 “(3) other activities which, in the view of the
5 appointing authority, warrant an extension of such
6 eligibility.

7 “(d) EXCEPTION.—The appointing authority may not
8 extend the noncompetitive appointment eligibility under
9 subsection (b) to any volunteer who chooses to be subject
10 to early termination.”.

11 **SEC. 1869. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY**
12 **WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUN-**
13 **TEERS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C.
15 2501 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 8I (22
16 U.S.C. 2507i) the following new section:

17 **“SEC. 8J. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY**
18 **WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUN-**
19 **TEERS.**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall develop and
21 implement a comprehensive drug use policy with respect
22 to Peace Corps volunteers. The policy shall—

23 “(1) establish a zero tolerance policy regarding
24 volunteer or trainee involvement with illegal drugs;
25 and

1 “(d) PROHIBITION AGAINST REPRISAL OR RETALIA-
2 TION.—

3 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4 “(A) COVERED OFFICIAL OR OFFICE.—The
5 term ‘covered official or office’ means—

6 “(i) any Peace Corps employee, in-
7 cluding an employee of the Office of In-
8 spector General;

9 “(ii) a Member of Congress or a des-
10 ignated representative of a committee of
11 Congress;

12 “(iii) an Inspector General (other
13 than the Inspector General for the Peace
14 Corps);

15 “(iv) the Government Accountability
16 Office;

17 “(v) any authorized official of the De-
18 partment of Justice or other Federal law
19 enforcement agency; and

20 “(vi) a United States court, including
21 any Federal grand jury.

22 “(B) RELIEF.—The term ‘relief’ includes
23 all affirmative relief necessary to make a volun-
24 teer whole, including monetary compensation,

1 equitable relief, compensatory damages, and at-
2 torney fees and costs.

3 “(C) REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.—The
4 term ‘reprisal or retaliation’ means taking,
5 threatening to take, or initiating adverse ad-
6 ministrative action against a volunteer because
7 the volunteer made a report described in sub-
8 section (a) or otherwise disclosed to a covered
9 official or office any information pertaining to
10 waste, fraud, abuse of authority, misconduct,
11 mismanagement, violations of law, or a signifi-
12 cant threat to health and safety, if the activity
13 or occurrence complained of is based upon the
14 reasonable belief of the volunteer.

15 “(2) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace
16 Corps shall take all reasonable measures, including
17 through the development and implementation of a
18 comprehensive policy, to prevent and address re-
19 prisal or retaliation against a volunteer by any Peace
20 Corps officer or employee, or any other person with
21 supervisory authority over the volunteer during the
22 volunteer’s period of service.

23 “(3) REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION; RE-
24 LIEF.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may re-
2 port a complaint or allegation of reprisal or re-
3 taliation—

4 “(i) directly to the Inspector General
5 of the Peace Corps, who may conduct such
6 investigations and make such recommenda-
7 tions with respect to the complaint or alle-
8 gation as the Inspector General considers
9 appropriate; and

10 “(ii) through other channels provided
11 by the Peace Corps, including through the
12 process for confidential reporting imple-
13 mented pursuant to subsection (a).

14 “(B) RELIEF.—The Director of the Peace
15 Corps—

16 “(i) may order any relief for an af-
17 firmative finding of a proposed or final res-
18 olution of a complaint or allegation of re-
19 prisal or retaliation in accordance with
20 policies, rules, and procedures of the Peace
21 Corps; and

22 “(ii) shall ensure that such relief is
23 promptly provided to the volunteer.

24 “(4) APPEAL.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may sub-
2 mit an appeal to the Director of the Peace
3 Corps of any proposed or final resolution of a
4 complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation.

5 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
6 in this paragraph may be construed to affect
7 any other right of recourse a volunteer may
8 have under any other provision of law.

9 “(5) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND REM-
10 EDIES.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall en-
11 sure that volunteers are informed in writing of the
12 rights and remedies provided under this section.

13 “(6) DISPUTE MEDIATION.—The Director of
14 the Peace Corps shall offer the opportunity for vol-
15 unteers to resolve disputes concerning a complaint
16 or allegation of reprisal or retaliation through medi-
17 ation in accordance with procedures developed by the
18 Peace Corps.

19 “(7) VOLUNTEER COOPERATION.—The Director
20 of the Peace Corps may take such disciplinary or
21 other administrative action, including termination of
22 service, with respect to a volunteer who unreason-
23 ably refuses to cooperate with an investigation into
24 a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation

1 conducted by the Inspector General of the Peace
2 Corps.”.

3 **SEC. 1871. PEACE CORPS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

4 Section 12 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2511)
5 is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

7 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
8 (A), by striking “(subject to subsection (d)(1))
9 conduct on-site inspections, and make examina-
10 tions, of the activities of the Peace Corps in the
11 United States and in other countries in order
12 to”;

13 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking
14 “and” at the end;

15 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as
16 subparagraph (G); and

17 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (C)
18 the following:

19 “(D) make recommendations for utilizing
20 the expertise of returned Peace Corps volun-
21 teers in fulfilling the goals of the Peace Corps;

22 “(E) make recommendations on strength-
23 ening diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessi-
24 bility principles in the workforce and daily work
25 of the Peace Corps, including by—

1 “(i) increasing the recruitment of vol-
2 unteers from diverse backgrounds and bet-
3 ter supporting such volunteers during their
4 training and enrollment in the Peace
5 Corps;

6 “(ii) increasing and sustaining a di-
7 verse and inclusive workforce through data
8 collection, anti-harassment and anti-dis-
9 crimination measures, recruitment, reten-
10 tion, professional development, and pro-
11 motion and leadership initiatives that also
12 consider the work and roles of contractors;

13 “(iii) ensuring that advisory commit-
14 tees and boards represent the diversity of
15 the agency; and

16 “(iv) increasing opportunities in oper-
17 ations, programming, and procurement
18 through work with partners and commu-
19 nities that are underrepresented or tradi-
20 tionally marginalized;

21 “(F) make recommendations to reduce any
22 financial barriers to application, training, or en-
23 rollment in the Peace Corps, including medical
24 expenses and other out-of-pocket costs; and”;

1 (2) in subsection (c), by amending paragraph
2 (2) to read as follows:

3 “(2)(A) The Council shall be composed of 7 members
4 who are United States citizens and are not being paid as
5 officers or employees of the Peace Corps or of any other
6 United States Government entity.

7 “(B) Of the 7 members of the Council—

8 “(i) 1 member shall be appointed by the Presi-
9 dent;

10 “(ii) 3 members shall be appointed by the
11 President pro tempore of the Senate, of which—

12 “(I) 2 members shall be appointed upon
13 the recommendation of the leader in the Senate
14 of the political party that is not the political
15 party of the President;

16 “(II) 1 member shall be appointed upon
17 the recommendation of the leader in the Senate
18 of the political party of the President; and

19 “(III) at least 2 members shall be former
20 Peace Corps volunteers; and

21 “(iii) 3 members shall be appointed by the
22 Speaker of the House of Representatives, of which—

23 “(I) 2 members shall be appointed upon
24 the recommendation of the leader in the House

1 of Representatives of the political party that is
2 not the political party of the President;

3 “(II) 1 member shall be appointed upon
4 the recommendation of the leader in the House
5 of Representatives of the political party of the
6 President; and

7 “(III) at least 2 members shall be former
8 Peace Corps volunteers.

9 “(C) Council members shall be appointed to 2-year
10 terms. No member of the Council may serve for more than
11 2 consecutive 2-year terms.

12 “(D) Not later than 30 days after any vacancy occurs
13 on the Council, the Director shall appoint an individual
14 to fill such vacancy. Any Council member appointed to fill
15 a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for
16 which the member’s predecessor was appointed—

17 “(i) shall be appointed for the remainder of
18 such term; and

19 “(ii) may only serve on the Council for 1 addi-
20 tional 2-year term.

21 “(E)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), Council
22 members shall not be subject to laws relating to Federal
23 employment, including laws relating to hours of work,
24 rates of compensation, leave, unemployment compensa-
25 tion, and Federal employee benefits.

1 “(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), Council members
2 shall be deemed to be Federal employees for purposes of—

3 “(I) chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code
4 (relating to compensation for work-related injuries);

5 “(II) chapter 11 of title 18, United States Code
6 (relating to conflicts of interest);

7 “(III) chapter 171 of title 28, United States
8 Code (relating to tort claims); and

9 “(IV) section 3721 of title 31 (relating to
10 claims for damage to, or loss of, personal property
11 incident to service).

12 “(F) Council members shall serve at the pleasure of
13 the Director. The Council may remove a member from the
14 Council by a vote of 5 members if the Council determines
15 that such member—

16 “(i) committed malfeasance in office;

17 “(ii) persistently neglected, or was unable to
18 successfully discharge, his or her duties on the
19 Council; or

20 “(iii) committed an offense involving moral tur-
21 pitude.”;

22 (3) in subsection (g)—

23 (A) by striking “and at its first regular
24 meeting in each calendar year thereafter” and

1 inserting “at its first meeting each subsequent
2 calendar year”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following:
4 “The Chair and Vice Chair shall each serve in
5 such capacity for a period not to exceed 2
6 years. The Director may renew the term of
7 members appointed as Chair and Vice Chair
8 under this subsection.”;

9 (4) in subsection (h), by amending paragraph
10 (1) to read as follows:

11 “(1) The Council shall hold 1 regular meeting per
12 quarter of each calendar year at a date and time to be
13 determined by the Chair of the Council or at the call of
14 the Director.”; and

15 (5) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(k) INDEPENDENCE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—
17 None of the activities or functions of the Council author-
18 ized under subsection (b)(2) may undermine the independ-
19 ence or supersede the duties of the Inspector General of
20 the Peace Corps.”.

21 **SEC. 1872. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH BUREAU**
22 **OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY OF THE DEPART-**
23 **MENT OF STATE.**

24 (a) QUINQUENNIAL REVIEW AND UPDATE.—Not
25 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of

1 this Act, and at least once every 5 years, the Director of
2 the Peace Corps and the Assistant Secretary of State for
3 Diplomatic Security shall—

4 (1) review the Memorandum of Agreement be-
5 tween the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the De-
6 partment of State and the Peace Corps regarding
7 security support and protection of Peace Corps vol-
8 unteers, and staff members abroad; and

9 (2) update such Memorandum of Agreement, as
10 appropriate.

11 (b) NOTIFICATION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace
13 Corps and the Assistant Secretary of State for Dip-
14 lomatic Security shall jointly submit any update to
15 the Memorandum of Agreement under subsection (a)
16 to—

17 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
18 the Senate; and

19 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
20 the House of Representatives.

21 (2) TIMING OF NOTIFICATION.—Each written
22 notification submitted pursuant to paragraph (1)
23 shall be submitted not later than 30 days before the
24 update referred to in such paragraph takes effect.

1 **SEC. 1873. CLARIFICATION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY OF**
2 **UNITED STATES NATIONALS.**

3 The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), as
4 amended by this subtitle, is further amended—

5 (1) in section 7(a)(5) (22 U.S.C. 2506(a)(5)),
6 by striking “United States citizens” each place such
7 term appears and inserting “United States nationals
8 of American Samoa and citizens of the United
9 States”;

10 (2) in section 8(b) (22 U.S.C. 2507(b)), by in-
11 sserting “United States nationals of American Samoa
12 and” after “training for”;

13 (3) in section 10(b) (22 U.S.C. 2509(b)), strik-
14 ing “any person not a citizen or resident of the
15 United States” and inserting “any person who is not
16 a United States national of American Samoa nor a
17 citizen or resident of the United States”; and

18 (4) in section 12(g) (22 U.S.C. 2511(g)), by in-
19 sserting “United States nationals of American Samoa
20 or” after “who are”.

21 **SEC. 1874. SEXUAL ASSAULT ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

22 (a) **REPORT AND EXTENSION OF THE SEXUAL AS-**
23 **SAULT ADVISORY COUNCIL.**—Section 8D of the Peace
24 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507d) is amended—

25 (1) by amending subsection (d) to read as fol-
26 lows:

1 “(d) REPORTS.—On an annual basis through the
2 date specified in subsection (g), the Council shall submit
3 a report to the Director of the Peace Corps, the Com-
4 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee
5 on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on For-
6 eign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the
7 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
8 tives that describes its findings based on the reviews con-
9 ducted pursuant to subsection (c) and includes relevant
10 recommendations. Each such report shall be made publicly
11 available.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (g), by striking “October 1,
13 2023” and inserting “October 1, 2028”.

14 **SEC. 1875. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY.**

15 Section 7 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2506)
16 is amended by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

17 “(b) SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY.—(1) The Peace
18 Corps may suspend (without pay) any employee appointed
19 or assigned under this section if the Director has deter-
20 mined that the employee engaged in serious misconduct
21 that could impact the efficiency of the service and could
22 lead to removal for cause.

23 “(2) Any employee for whom a suspension without
24 pay is proposed under this subsection shall be entitled
25 to—

1 “(A) written notice stating the specific reasons
2 for such proposed suspension;

3 “(B)(i) up to 15 days to respond orally or in
4 writing to such proposed suspension if the employee
5 is assigned in the United States; or

6 “(ii) up to 30 days to respond orally or in writ-
7 ing to such proposed suspension if the employee is
8 assigned outside of the United States;

9 “(C) representation by an attorney or other
10 representative, at the employee’s own expense;

11 “(D) a written decision, including the specific
12 reasons for such decision, as soon as practicable;

13 “(E) a process through which the employee may
14 submit an appeal to the Director of the Peace Corps
15 not later than 10 business days after the issuance of
16 a written decision; and

17 “(F) a final decision personally rendered by the
18 Director of the Peace Corps not later than 30 days
19 after the receipt of such appeal.

20 “(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
21 final decision under paragraph (2)(F) shall be final and
22 not subject to further review.

23 “(4) If the Director fails to establish misconduct by
24 an employee under paragraph (1) and no disciplinary ac-
25 tion is taken against such employee based upon the alleged

1 grounds for the suspension, the employee shall be entitled
2 to reinstatement, back pay, full benefits, and reimburse-
3 ment of attorney fees of up to \$20,000.”.

4 **SEC. 1876. OCEANIA PEACE CORPS PARTNERSHIPS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
7 Peace Corps shall submit to Congress a report on strate-
8 gies to reasonably and safely expand the number of Peace
9 Corps volunteers in the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania,
10 with the goals of—

11 (1) expanding the presence of the Peace Corps
12 to all currently feasible locations in the Indo-Pacific
13 countries of Oceania; and

14 (2) working with regional and international
15 partners of the United States to expand the presence
16 of Peace Corps volunteers in low-income commu-
17 nities in the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania in
18 support of climate resilience initiatives.

19 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
20 (a) shall—

21 (1) assess the factors contributing to the cur-
22 rent absence of the Peace Corps and its volunteers
23 in the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania;

24 (2) examine potential remedies that include
25 working with United States Government agencies

1 and regional governments, including Governments of
2 United States allies—

3 (A) to increase the health infrastructure
4 and medical evacuation capabilities of the Indo-
5 Pacific countries of Oceania to better support
6 the safety of Peace Corps volunteers while in
7 those countries;

8 (B) to address physical safety concerns
9 that have decreased the ability of the Peace
10 Corps to operate in the Indo-Pacific countries
11 of Oceania; and

12 (C) to increase transportation infrastruc-
13 ture in the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania to
14 better support the travel of Peace Corps volun-
15 teers and their access to necessary facilities;

16 (3) evaluate the potential to expand the deploy-
17 ment of Peace Corps Response volunteers to help the
18 Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania address social, eco-
19 nomic, and development needs of their communities
20 that require specific professional expertise; and

21 (4) explore potential new operational models to
22 address safety and security needs of Peace Corps
23 volunteers in the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania,
24 including—

1 (A) changes to volunteer deployment dura-
2 tions; and

3 (B) scheduled redeployment of volunteers
4 to regional or United States-based healthcare
5 facilities for routine physical and behavioral
6 health evaluation.

7 (c) VOLUNTEERS IN LOW-INCOME OCEANIA COMMU-
8 NITIES.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—In examining the potential
10 to expand the presence of Peace Corps volunteers in
11 low-income communities in the Indo-Pacific coun-
12 tries of Oceania under subsection (a)(2), the Direc-
13 tor of the Peace Corps shall consider the develop-
14 ment of initiatives described in paragraph (2).

15 (2) INITIATIVES DESCRIBED.—Initiatives de-
16 scribed in this paragraph are volunteer initiatives
17 that help the Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania ad-
18 dress social, economic, and development needs of
19 their communities, including by—

20 (A) addressing, through appropriate resil-
21 ience-based interventions, the vulnerability that
22 communities in the Indo-Pacific countries of
23 Oceania face as result of extreme weather, se-
24 vere environmental change, and other climate
25 related trends; and

1 (B) improving, through smart infrastruc-
2 ture principles, access to transportation and
3 connectivity infrastructure that will help ad-
4 dress the economic and social challenges that
5 communities in the Indo-Pacific countries of
6 Oceania confront as a result of poor or non-
7 existent infrastructure.

8 (d) INDO-PACIFIC COUNTRIES OF OCEANIA DE-
9 FINED.—The term “Indo-Pacific countries of Oceania”
10 means Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Mi-
11 cronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sol-
12 omon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

13 **SEC. 1877. REPORTS.**

14 (a) REPORT ON MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION
15 STANDARDS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-
18 rector of the Peace Corps shall submit to the Com-
19 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
21 tions of the Senate a report on the guidelines and
22 standards used to evaluate the mental health of
23 Peace Corps applicants prior to service.

24 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
25 paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

1 (A) A detailed description of mental health
2 screening guidelines and evaluation standards
3 used by the Peace Corps to determine medical
4 eligibility of applicants for service, including a
5 description of the most common mental health
6 conditions of applicants.

7 (B) Specific standards in the mental health
8 screening process that could lead to an appli-
9 cant's disqualification from service, and a de-
10 scription of how these determinations are made.

11 (C) A description of any expedited mental
12 health clearance process for severe or recent
13 symptom presentation.

14 (D) A description of periods of stability re-
15 lated to certain mental health conditions and
16 symptoms recommended prior to an applicant's
17 clearance to serve.

18 (E) An assessment of the impact of up-
19 dated mental health evaluation guidance, in-
20 cluding a comparison of mental health related
21 volunteer medevacs in years before and after
22 updated guidelines were implemented.

23 (F) A review of these screening guidelines,
24 conducted by a panel of certified and qualified
25 medical professionals in the United States, that

1 evaluates these standards based on scientific
2 evidence and mental health research and pro-
3 poses relevant updates or additions to current
4 guidance.

5 (b) REPORT ON VOLUNTEER MEDICAL EVACU-
6 ATIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the first May
8 1 occurring after the date of the enactment of this
9 Act, and annually thereafter for five years, the Di-
10 rector of the Peace Corps shall submit to the Com-
11 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
13 tions of the Senate a report on volunteer medical
14 and mental health evacuations.

15 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
16 paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

17 (A) The number of Peace Corps volunteer
18 medical and mental health evacuations during
19 the previous year.

20 (B) A breakdown of these evacuations into
21 medical and mental health evacuation cat-
22 egories.

23 (C) The estimated cost of these evacu-
24 ations for each year, including a breakdown of

1 costs between medical and mental health evacu-
 2 ation categories.

3 **SEC. 1878. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

4 The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), as
 5 amended by this subtitle, is further amended—

6 (1) by amending section 1 to read as follows:

7 **“SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

8 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
 9 ‘Peace Corps Act’.

10 “(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents
 11 for this Act is as follows:

“TITLE I—THE PEACE CORPS

“Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

“Sec. 2. Declaration of purpose.

“Sec. 2A. Peace Corps as an independent agency.

“Sec. 3. Authorization.

“Sec. 4. Director of the Peace Corps and delegation of functions.

“Sec. 5. Peace Corps volunteers.

“Sec. 5A. Health care for volunteers at Peace Corps posts.

“Sec. 5B. Codification of Executive orders relating to noncompetitive eligibility
 Federal hiring status for returning volunteers.

“Sec. 5C. Extension of period of existing noncompetitive eligibility Federal hir-
 ing status for returning volunteers.

“Sec. 6. Peace Corps volunteer leaders.

“Sec. 7. Peace Corps employees.

“Sec. 8. Volunteer training.

“Sec. 8A. Sexual assault risk-reduction and response training.

“Sec. 8B. Sexual assault policy.

“Sec. 8C. Office of Victim Advocacy.

“Sec. 8D. Establishment of Sexual Assault Advisory Council.

“Sec. 8E. Volunteer feedback and Peace Corps review.

“Sec. 8F. Establishment of a policy on stalking.

“Sec. 8G. Establishment of a confidentiality protection policy.

“Sec. 8H. Removal and assessment and evaluation.

“Sec. 8I. Reporting requirements.

“Sec. 8J. Comprehensive illegal drug use policy with respect to Peace Corps
 volunteers.

“Sec. 9. Participation of foreign nationals.

“Sec. 10. General powers and authorities.

“Sec. 11. Reports.

“Sec. 12. Peace Corps National Advisory Council.

- “Sec. 13. Experts and consultants.
 “Sec. 14. Detail of personnel to foreign governments and international organizations.
 “Sec. 15. Utilization of funds.
 “Sec. 16. Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account.
 “Sec. 17. Use of foreign currencies.
 “Sec. 18. Activities promoting Americans’ understanding of other peoples.
 “Sec. 19. Exclusive right to seal and name.
 “Sec. 22. Security investigations.
 “Sec. 23. Universal Military Training and Service Act.
 “Sec. 24. Foreign language proficiency.
 “Sec. 25. Nonpartisan appointments.
 “Sec. 26. Definitions.
 “Sec. 27. Construction.
 “Sec. 28. Effective date.

“TITLE II—AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND
 SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

“TITLE III—ENCOURAGEMENT OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE
 PROGRAMS

“Sec. 301. ”;

- 1 (2) in section 2(a) (22 U.S.C. 2501(a))—
 2 (A) by striking “help the peoples” and in-
 3 serting “partner with the peoples”; and
 4 (B) by striking “manpower” and inserting
 5 “individuals”;
 6 (3) in section 3 (22 U.S.C. 2502), in subsection
 7 (e), as redesignated, by striking “disabled people”
 8 each place such term appears and inserting “people
 9 with disabilities”;
 10 (4) in section 4(b) (22 U.S.C. 2503(b))—
 11 (A) by striking “him” and inserting “the
 12 President”;
 13 (B) by striking “he” and inserting “the
 14 Director”; and

1 (C) by striking “of his subordinates” and
2 all that follows through “functions.” and insert-
3 ing “subordinate of the Director the authority
4 to perform any such function.”;
5 (5) in section 5 (22 U.S.C. 2504)—

6 (A) in subsection (c), by striking “: *Pro-*
7 *vided, however,*” and all that follows through
8 “the amount” and inserting “. Under such cir-
9 cumstances as the President may determine,
10 the accrued readjustment allowance, or any
11 part thereof, may be paid to the volunteer,
12 members of the volunteer’s family, or others,
13 during the period of the volunteer’s service, or
14 prior to the volunteer’s return to the United
15 States. In the event of the volunteer’s death
16 during the period of his service, the amount”;
17 and

18 (B) in subsection (o) by striking “the date
19 of his departure” and all that follows and in-
20 serting “the date of the volunteer’s departure
21 from the volunteer’s place of residence to enter
22 training until not later than 3 months after the
23 termination of the volunteer’s service.”;

1 (6) in section 6(3) (22 U.S.C. 2505(3)), by
2 striking by striking “he may determine” and insert-
3 ing “the President may determine”;

4 (7) in section 7 (22 U.S.C. 2506)—

5 (A) in subsection (a), by moving para-
6 graphs (7) and (8) 2 ems to the left; and

7 (B) in subsection (b), as redesignated, by
8 striking “in his discretion” and inserting “in
9 the President’s discretion”;

10 (8) in section 8A (22 U.S.C. 2507a)—

11 (A) in subsection (c), by striking “his or
12 her” and inserting “the volunteer’s”;

13 (B) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting
14 “the” before “information”; and

15 (C) in subsection (f)—

16 (i) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking
17 “his or her” each place such phrase ap-
18 pears and inserting “the volunteer’s”; and

19 (ii) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking
20 “his or her” and inserting “the person’s”;

21 (9) in section 8C(a) (22 U.S.C. 2507c(a)), in
22 the subsection heading, by striking “VICTIMS” and
23 inserting “VICTIM”;

24 (10) in section 8E (22 U.S.C. 2507e)—

1 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “sub-
2 section (c),,” and inserting “subsection (c),”;
3 and

4 (B) in subsection (e)(1)(F), by striking
5 “Peace Corp’s mission” and inserting “Peace
6 Corps’ mission”;

7 (11) in section 9 (22 U.S.C. 2508)—

8 (A) by striking “under which he was ad-
9 mitted or who fails to depart from the United
10 States at the expiration of the time for which
11 he was admitted” and inserting “under which
12 such person was admitted or who fails to depart
13 from the United States at the expiration of the
14 period for which such person was admitted”;
15 and

16 (B) by striking “Act proceedings” and in-
17 serting “Act. Removal proceedings”;

18 (12) in section 10 (22 U.S.C. 2509)—

19 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “he may
20 prescribe” and inserting “the President may
21 prescribe”;

22 (B) in subsection (d), by striking “section
23 3709 of the Revised Statutes of the United
24 States, as amended, section 302 of the Federal
25 Property and Administrative Services Act of

1 1949”; and by inserting “sections 3101(a),
2 3101(c), 3104, 3106, 3301(b)(2), and 6101 of
3 title 41, United States Code”; and

4 (C) in subsection (j), by striking “of this
5 section.”;

6 (13) in section 12(d)(1)(b) (22 U.S.C.
7 2511(d)(1)(b)), by striking “his or her” and insert-
8 ing “the member’s”;

9 (14) in section 14 (22 U.S.C. 2513)—

10 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “his
11 agency” and inserting “such agency”; and

12 (B) in subsection (b)—

13 (i) by striking “his allowance” and in-
14 serting “the”; and

15 (ii) by striking “he”;

16 (15) in section 15 (22 U.S.C. 2514)—

17 (A) in subsection (e), by striking “that
18 Act” and inserting “that subchapter”; and

19 (B) in subsection (d)(7), by striking “his
20 designee” and inserting “the Director’s des-
21 ignee”;

22 (16) in section 19(a) (22 U.S.C. 2518(a)), by
23 striking “he shall determine” and inserting “the
24 President shall determine”;

25 (17) in section 23 (22 U.S.C. 2520)—

1 (A) in the section heading, by striking
2 “UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING AND SERV-
3 ICE” and inserting “MILITARY SELECTIVE
4 SERVICE”; and

5 (B) by striking “Universal Military Train-
6 ing and Service Act” and inserting “Military
7 Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.)”;
8 (18) in section 24—

9 (A) by striking “he” each place such term
10 appears and inserting “the volunteer”; and

11 (B) by striking “his” and inserting “the
12 volunteer’s”;

13 (19) in section 26—

14 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
15 through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (10), re-
16 spectively;

17 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
18 following:

19 “(2) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of
20 the Peace Corps.”;

21 (C) in paragraph (5), as redesignated, by
22 striking “he or she” and inserting “the medical
23 officer”;

24 (D) in paragraph (7), as redesignated, by
25 striking “5(m)” and inserting “5(n)”; and

1 (E) in paragraph (10), as redesignated—
2 (i) by redesignating clauses (i) and
3 (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respec-
4 tively; and
5 (ii) in subparagraph (A), as redesign-
6 nated, by striking “section 5(f)” and in-
7 serting “section 5(e)”; and
8 (20) in section 301(a), by striking “manpower”
9 each place such term appears and inserting “individ-
10 uals”.

